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OWNED BY MITCHELL, JR., EDITOR

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Entered in the Post Office at Richmond, Va. as second class matter.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1904

We have received a most interesting exchange with the euphonious name of Phonograph. It is published at Harrisonburg, Va with Rev. L. Campbell Garland as editor and Mr. J. Rollie Rice, publisher. It deserves success and the management has our best wishes.

MR. THOMAS NELSON PAGE'S CONCLUSION.

MR. THOMAS NELSON PAGE'S conclusion of his admirable article on "The Old Time Negro" as published in SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE for November is as touchingly pathetic as any portion of the narrative.

Those of us who knew the late Mr. JOHN DABNEY, the caterer, will appreciate fully this tribute to the honesty of a deserving Virginian of the old school. He says:

The character of the old-time Negro I can hardly better illustrate than by the case of an old friend of mine, John Dabney, to whom I, in common with nearly all my acquaintances in Richmond, used to be greatly indebted, for he was the best caterer I ever knew. John Dabney was, in his boyhood, a race-ridder for a noted Virginia turfman, Major William R. Johnson, but, possibly because of his gifts as a cook, he soon grew too fat for that "lean and hungry calling, and in time he became a celebrated cook and caterer. He belonged to one of the De Jarnetts of the adjoining county to my native county, and, prior to the war, he bought himself from his mistress, as would have been done by clever Negroes. When the war closed he still owed his mistress several hundred dollars on account of this debt, and as soon as he was able to raise the sum he sent it to her. She promptly returned it, telling him that he was free and would have been free anyhow and that he owed her nothing. On this, John Dabney took the money, went to his old home and insisted on her receiving it, saying that his old master had brought him up to pay his debts, and that this was a just debt which he proposed to pay.

He adds the following testimonial:

The instances are not rare in which old family servants have worked under the new conditions more successfully than their former owners have shown the old feeling by rendering them such acts of kindness as could only have sprung from a deep and abiding affection.

He says further:

Whoever goes to the White House will find at the door of the executive offices an elderly and very stout Negro door-keeper, with perfect manners, a step as soft as the fall of the leaf, and an aplomb which nothing can disturb. His name is Arthur Simmons, and, until toward the close of the war, he was a gentleman's servant in North Carolina; then he came North. He is, possibly the oldest employee in the White House, having been appointed by General Grant during his first term, and having held his position, with the exception of a single term—that of General Harrison—to the present time. It is said that Mr. Cleveland's first appointment after his return to office was that of Arthur Sim-

mons to his old post. Possibly, Mr. Cleveland had heard this story of him. Once, Arthur, having learned that his old mistress had expressed a desire to see the President of the United States, invited her to Washington, met her at the station, saw to her comfort while in the city, arranged an interview with the President for her, and then escorted her back to take her train home.

Here is a case where a Democratic President appointed a Negro at the very doors of the White House, and to a position from which he had been removed by a Republican Chief Executive. In this case, there was no howl from the Negro haters of the Southland, who have since made themselves hoarse over the appointment of Dr. W. D. CRUM as Collector of the Port at Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. PAGE relates another incident:

On the part of the old plantation which I have attempted to describe has lived for the past thirty years, free of rent, the leading Negro policeman in the upper end of Hanover County. His wife was Hannah, my mother's old maid, who, from within a year or two after the war served us with a fidelity and zeal of which I can give no conception. It may, however, illustrate it to state that, although she lived a mile and a quarter from the house and had to cross a creek, through which, in times of high water, she occasionally had to wade almost to her waist, she for thirty years did not miss being at her post in the morning more than a half-score times.

Hannah has gone to her long home, and it may throw some light on the old relation between mistress and servant to say that on the occasion of the golden wedding of my mother and father, as Hannah was at that time too ill to leave her home, they took all the present in the carriage and carried them over to show them to her.

Indeed, Hannah's last thought was of her old mistress. She died suddenly one morning, and just before her death she said to her husband, "Open the door, its Miss—The door was opened, but the mistress was not there, except to Hannah's dying gaze. To her, she was standing by her bedside, and her last words were addressed to her.

Mr. PAGE remarks:

It is a continual cause of surprise among those who do not know the South that the old-time Negroes should be so fond of the old Negroes and yet should be so intolerant of things which Northerners would regard with indifference. It is a matter which can hardly be explained, but if anyone goes and live at the South, he will quickly find himself falling into Southern ways.

Let one go on the plantations where the politician is absent and the "bloody-shirt" newspaper is unknown, and he will find something of the old relation still existing.

The above is an absolutely correct statement. The case is very much like the young fellow and his best girl. He will kiss her, but—he doesn't want any one else to do the same thing.

The Southerner will eat with his Negroes, drink with his Negroes and play with his Negroes. "But sah, I'll be d—ned if I want a Northerner to do it!" he will say, and, in the South, this is right, and Southern customs, must be observed only in the South and only by us, By Gawd!

Mr. PAGE says:

I have seen a young man (who happened to be a lieutenant in a volunteer company) kiss his old mammy on the parade ground in sight of the whole regiment.

Here you have the testimony of an unimpeachable witness. How does this compare with President ROOSEVELT's attitude towards Prof. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON in the now famous luncheon incident at the White House?

The white lieutenant could kiss a Negro woman before a whole white regiment, but a white President is not permitted to eat a meal of victuals with a Negro man within the privacy of his own official mansion. Mr. PAGE spoke truly when he said that such inconsistency "can hardly be explained." It can be summed up as being one of the incongruities of race prejudice.

Mr. PAGE cites another incident:

Some years ago, while General Fitzhugh Lee was Governor of Virginia, a wedding took place in the executive mansion at Richmond. As the last moment, when the company were assembled and all had taken their places, waiting for the bride to appear, it was discovered that mammy Ceila, the bride's mammy had not come in, and no less a person than General Lee, the Governor of Virginia, went and fetched her in on his arm to take her place beside the mother of the bride.

This is true and occasioned no adverse comment at the time.

He concludes as follows:

Unhappily, whatever the future may produce, the teachings of doctrines and injudicious friends have lost the Negro of the present generation their manners and cost them much of the friendship of the whites.

None of us knows what relation the future may produce between the two races in the South, but possibly when the self-righteous shall be fewer than they are now and the teachings which have estranged the races shall become more sane the great Anglo-Saxon race, which is dominant, and the Negro race, which is amiable, if not subservient, will adjust their differences more in accordance with the laws which must eventually prevail, and the old feeling of kindness, which seems, under the stress of antagonism, to be dying away, will once more reassert itself.

This is a wish in which we can all join. We know that there are tens of thousands of colored people, who are uncouth and devoid of good manners, but the corn-field system and the freedom that came suddenly tended to make them so.

But on the other hand, there are thousands of as courtly youngsters today in the hotels and club-houses of the North and the South as ever handled a waiter during the palmy days of the slave-holders' regime.

No one who has visited the aristocratic Westmoreland Club-house, where Mr. PAGE often may be found during his "whiling away" moments here or at the palatial Commonwealth Club-house will doubt the truth of all that we say.

These colored servants are living types of the black butlers of the old

school. Ill-bred, insulting, lazy, shiftless colored people are an abomination, and are roundly abhorred by the better elements of both races.

It must be admitted, however, that the uncouth Negro is but a duplicate of the uncouth white man, and the one should be as objectionable as the other.

Every hotel in this city is managed and controlled in its dining apartments by the polite Chesterfieldian Negro and waiters, who are practical duplicates of the butlers of long ago. He is being antagonized by the New Issue Whites, but is being rigidly and tenaciously supported by the Old Issue ones and his offspring.

The time is now at hand when the Negro must depend upon himself without the advice and helping hands of "Old Marster."

Still, it is a sad change for both parties. The old Mammy regards the white man of today who is to her the white child of yesterday, as her charge and she can always secure a ready admittance to his presence. Even the wild, roving, wayward ones can exclaim in the words of WILL CARLETON:

"But I've learned one thing and it cheers a man
 In always a doin' the best he can;
 That whether on the big book a blot
 Gets over a fellow's name or not,
 Whenever he does a deed that's white
 It's credited to him fair and right,
 An' when you hear the great bugle's notes,
 An' the Lord divides his sheep and goats,
 However they may settle my case,
 Wherever they may fix my place,
 My good old Christian mammy, you'll see,
 Will be sure to stand right up for me."

SUIT AGAINST PAPER TRUST

Attorney General Moody Petitions U.S. Court For Injunction.

ALLEGES UNLAWFUL COMBINE

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 28.—Attorney General Moody, for the United States, through United States District Attorney Haupt and Frank B. Kellogg and James M. Beck, special assistant attorneys general for the United States, filed a petition in the United States district court, in which he makes the General Paper company as principal defendant and 22 other paper and pulp companies, known as the paper trust, party defendants in a suit to enjoin them and restrain them from doing business through the General Paper company as the sales agent, in violation of the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the act of congress approved July 2, entitled, "An act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies."

The petition alleges that the defendants entered into an agreement to combine and control the sale of the product of the different companies through the General Paper company, in that the General Paper company regulated prices, sales and shipments and territory for the sale of the same, and after deducting operating expenses of the General Paper company divided the surplus among the members of the corporation.

The petition recites that the General Paper company was organized under the laws of Wisconsin May 26, 1890, with a capital stock of \$100,000, divided into 1000 shares, which were distributed among and are now held by certain of the defendants named, and that later the others were taken into the combination, naming them in the order in which they entered the combination, and goes on to state that the General Paper company became the exclusive selling agent for the defendants, with absolute power to control the output of the various mills, fix the price of all paper sold and to whom and upon what terms and conditions the paper should be sold; and into what states and places it shall be shipped and what publishers and other customers each mill shall supply.

The petition alleges that in consequence of the combination all competition in the manufacture, sale and distribution of paper had been restricted and the price of all paper products greatly increased, particularly that of news print paper, which has been increased about 50 per cent.

The court is asked to declare the alleged combination unlawful and that the defendants be perpetually enjoined from doing any act in pursuance of the same.

That the General Paper company be enjoined from acting as sales agent for the other defendants, and that the latter be enjoined from continuing their arrangement with the General Paper company. The court is also asked to direct the defendants to come into court and answer all questions relating to the charges in the petition which may be asked.

A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

Portion of Powder Works Blows Up and Shakes Several Towns.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 27.—A portion of the Acadia Powder company's works, near Waverly, 10 miles from this city, blew up, and the concussion shook the country and broke windows for 20 miles around. Fortunately no one was killed or seriously injured, although about 20 of the employees, who had just left the powder works when the explosion took place, were thrown violently to the ground and badly stunned.

The plant is situated a mile outside of Waverly, yet every window in the town was broken and many people on the streets were cut by the shower of broken glass. The property loss at the Acadia works is estimated at \$25,000.

The explosion was in a small building known as the dry house, in which about a ton of powder was stored, and is believed to have been due to overheating. The concussion demolished half a dozen other buildings close by the dry house, but did not explode the

powder in the magazine, although that building was partially wrecked. A hole several feet deep was blown in the ground.

Similar reports were received from Bedford, 10 miles from the powder plant, and in Renfrew, Oldham and other small towns situated up the valley toward the scene of the explosion. The fact that only about one-fifth of the ordinary working force was about the building undoubtedly prevented loss of life.

Seven Killed in Wreck.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 27.—A passenger train on the Southern Railway collided head-on with the passenger train from Louisville near Mauds Station, Ill. One engineer and six employees were killed and two passengers and eight employees were slightly injured. The collision was caused by the failure of the signal at Browns, Ill., to deliver to the east-bound train an order naming meeting point for the two trains.

Physicians Off For Panama.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 28.—Twenty-two physicians, accompanied by several men and women not of the medical profession, left here on board the steamship Albatross, of the Di Giorgio steamship line, bound for Panama. The physicians are delegates to the fourth Pan-American Medical Congress, which will meet in Panama on or about January 3, 1905.

PATTERSON JURY DISAGREES

Unable to Reach Verdict After Being Out Over 24 Hours.

New York, Dec. 24.—Following a day of intense nervous strain, Nan Patterson is in the Tombs ill and perhaps on the verge of a breakdown, but with constant attendance.

The former show girl, expecting acquittal at the hands of the jury which has listened to the evidence in her trial for the murder of Caesar Young last June, went into court to learn that the 12 men chosen to decide as to her innocence or guilt, had been unable to reach an agreement—in fact, had divided even over the question as to whether or not she held the revolver which ended Young's life. The jurors stood six to six—half for acquittal, the other for conviction. Although no official announcement was made further than this, court house talk had it that of the six deciding against Miss Patterson, none was for conviction of murder in the first degree, that one held out for murder in the second degree, two for manslaughter in the first degree and three for manslaughter in the second degree.

Immediately the announcement of the verdict was made Miss Patterson broke into fits of weeping, which continued until she was led from the court room to a retiring chamber, where physicians were called and restorative administered. Then she was taken to the Tombs, but she again wept and became hysterical, and the tears of her aged father, the prison warden and attendants to quiet her were futile.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY IN COLLISION

Was Badly Shaken Up in Railroad Wreck at Baltimore.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 28.—A collision occurred here in the yards of the Pennsylvania railroad at Union Station between the Northern Central Harrisburg express train enroute from Washington and the peninsula express train of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington railway, the latter being empty and shifting at the time. On the Harrisburg express were a large number of Mystic Shriners of that city and other passengers, including Admiral Schley.

The following persons were injured: George Ungle, engineer of Harrisburg express, hurt internally; Rudolph Bruettner, car cleaner, broken arm and cuts on forehead; S. S. Hall, of Washington, bruised on head and body; John G. Rappold, car cleaner, broken nose and cut head; Harry E. Heald, baggage-master on the Peninsula express, cuts on head and broken nose, sent to hospital.

None of the passengers was injured, though all of them, including Admiral Schley, were badly shaken up.

SILVER BULLION EXHAUSTED

Congress Must Take Prompt Action to Relieve the Situation.

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—John H. Landis, superintendent of the U. S. Mint, in this city, announced that the available silver bullion of the country has been exhausted. Unless congress takes prompt action to relieve the situation by authorizing the purchase of more silver bullion for coining purposes or by accepting a suggested temporary remedy, he said, commerce will be greatly hampered next year as a result of a \$10,000,000 shortage in small silver coin. The prevailing conditions of the country's collateral also entails wholesale discharges of mint employees, to take effect on January 1, and unless relief is obtained from congress the regular mint force will be cut down to a nominal number within the next few months.

FIVE PERSONS BURN TO DEATH

Police Suspect Foul Play in Tragedy at Old Town, Md.

Old Town, Md., Dec. 27.—Mack Nimarick, his wife and child and Anna and Massam Cole, Nimarick's sisters-in-law, all Slavs, were burned to death in a shanty in which 50 laborers employed on the Wabash railroad were housed. The men were employed by a sub-contractor named John Nichols. An explosion of coal oil is supposed to have caused the accident. Foul play is suspected by the police, as Nimarick is said to have had a considerable sum of money on his person. Two of the Slavs, members of the camp, are said to be missing.

Bought His Own Coffin.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Buying a coffin extensively for a friend, Leroy K. Nesbit, a banker, committed suicide in an undertaking establishment. Scribbled on a card in the banker's pocket was a note saying: "I am tired of being a cripple." Nesbit had a shriveled leg and had spent thousands of dollars in a vain attempt to effect a cure.



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